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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Phone: (703) 351-7676

13 September 1982

Mr. John T. Dolan, Chairman National Conservative Foundation Suite 502 1500 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Dolan:

Thank you for the invitation to our Director, Mr. Casey, to appear on your nationally syndicated television series American Forum. Unfortunately, Mr. Casey's schedule is fully obligated to official travel and other duties for the foreseeable future. Consequently, he will be unable to accept your invitation.

Thank you again for thinking of us.

Sincerely,
Public Affairs Division

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OEXA/PAD/ADB/ 13 Sep 82/x7676 Distribution:

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

Director, Office of External Affairs

SUBJECT:

Invitation to Appear on American Forum,

Sponsored by the National Conservative Foundation

Action Requested: Accept or decline this invitation.

2. <u>Background</u>: John T. Dolan, Chairman of the National Conservative Foundation which sponsors the American Forum has asked that you appear as a featured guest on this program. The Foundation is a non-profit conservative education and research organization. In addition to producing the American Forum it sponsors campaign management and campaign finance schools, conducts economic and political briefings, and issues policy studies. Mr. Dolan is well-known in political circles for his fundraising activities.

The Foundation is beginning the second season of its nationally syndicated television series (American Forum) that has network affiliations and major independent stations in such cities as New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Seattle. The program reaches about 30% of the homes in the U.S. Each American Forum program has a number of segments: a debate between well-known proponents of conservative and liberal points-of-view, an opportunity for the viewers to call in opinions, and commentary on current affairs. The format of each show is generally ten-to-fifteen minutes of informal discussion with a special guest, to enabling the audience to hear your views without editing from network commentators.

The taping sessions are held between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on a weekly basis from September through November. The studios are located at Tele-Color Productions in Alexandria, Virginia. You would not have to spend more than forty-five minutes at Tele-Color.

Other featured guests on the program have included White House Chief of Staff, James Baker, Secretary of the Interior James Watt, Republican National Committee Chairman Richard Richards and Congressman Jack Kemp. In checking out the authenticity of this group, we learned from Ed Rowlins of the White House Political Office that although the Foundation is indeed a legitimate, solidly based group, its ultraconservative nature has recently brought it into a somewhat hostile stance with the Administration. Mr. Rowlins suggests that because of CIA's basically non-political posture you might wish to consider not participating, fearing you might be unnecessarily baited. Secretary Watt has had several dealings with this group and has directly criticized the Foundation for not being more supportive of the Administration.

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it could prove to be a good opportunity to discuss FOIA.	
3. <u>Recommendation</u> : None. Indicate you Public Affairs to respond on your behalf.	ur preference and authorize
ACCEPT:	
Director of Central Intelligence	DATE
DELCINE:	
7s/ William J. Const	3 SEP 1982
Director of Central Intelligence	DATE
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